FOR MYSORE STATE.

Food & Agriculture (195 /) Department.

Rt. SERIES.

G.O. NO. 474

474

passed by Supdt

Dated 20th June-1957

[Despatch Abstract.]

C. S. — Foodgrains — Procurement — Sugarcane Allowance of grain to areca gardeners for wages in kind to labour employees in areca gardens — Concession withdrawn — Correspondence recorded.

M. [redacted] BHIDE,
PLANTER.

President:
ALL INDIA
SUPARI (BETELNUT) FEDERATION.
KARNATAKA
MALNAD DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY.

P. O. MUNDAJE,
S. KANARA.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
57675
2 SEP 1950
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Ref. No. 238/50

Dated - 31.8.50

To
The Secretary to the Government,
Food Department,
Government of Madras,
Fort St. George,
M A D R A S.

Dear Sir,

Subject: Procurement in rationing - Food Grains - Allowance to Areca Gardners for payment of wages in kind - South Kanara District Memorandum No.21161-A/46G dated 10th December 1946 - Board of Revenue Instructions to Collector against this order - consideration of restoring the order urged.

. . . . . .

I beg to represent the following matter for your immediate attention and favour of prompt action in the matter, details of which I am giving here below:

2. The Government of Madras in their Food Department have, in their memorandum No.21161-A/46G dated 10th December, 1946 have decided to allow the areca gardners in the South Kanara District to retain out of their own and their tenants' produce enough grain to pay the labour employed in the areca gardens, and further stated in the same memorandum in what way the grain is to be kept and disposed. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the order to make things very clear. Allowances were made on the basis of this order from that time uptil present. Growers who applied for such facilities did get their produce for the purpose in accordance with the above order.

P

3. I understand that the Board of Revenue have instructed the Collector of South Kanara to reduce the ration of such labourers to 6 ounces in rice and to give ration cards for the other non-rice quota. I am further informed that the Collector has issued instructions to his subordinates to requisition such difference in respect of one month's allowance.

4. You will please recall my visiting you in 1948, when the Board of Revenue instructed the Collector to demand security deposits from the growers for keeping these stocks with them. I vividly remember your ~~strong~~ considering the case very favourably and passing orders against the instructions of the Board and cancelling the demand for security made. I once again thank you for having taken prompt action and with this confidence that I approach you now for redress.

5. I consider that the instructions issued by the Board of Revenue curtailing the allowance of 16 ounces allowed to the labourers working in the areca garden, who incidentally also work in the paddy fields as agricultural labour is a clear injustice both in principle and in law. The allowances made are to such areca growers who have their own produce and I would like to make it clear that these allowances are not made to all areca growers in the district. When there is a clear Government order about the matter and a practice has been prevailing in accordance to that for the past four years, it is rather very strange and extremely arbitrary for the Board of Revenue to have interfered in the matter in such a summary way. I think this should not have been so, and it is now up to the Government to examine whether the Board has acted properly and regularly.

6. It is rather strange that the South Kanara and Co... areca growers union, at whose instnati this matter was decided by the Government of Madras, and through whom the arrangements for the issue of permits were made was not consulted in this matter, nor was this Union afforded any opportunity to explain the position with regard to this. This decision of the Revenue Board to go against the Government Order is most arbitrary and I should say very irregular. This is not the Democratic way in which

Governments are expected to carry out the Administration, at least under the new dispensation. In my view, the Governments stand to gain a lot in taking at least representative bodies into their confidence, and especially so when reactionary and retrograde measures are being introduced. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the action of the Revenue Board in going against a specific order of the Government is clearly one such action.

7. Another aspect from which this matter should be viewed has not probably been taken into consideration. The Areca growers live in informally rationed areas, and it is wrong to interfere with such areas when the Government has failed in its duty of maintaining regular supplies there. I do not think, therefore, that it would be wrong to expect the Government to leave these areas alone to themselves. I have no doubt whatsoever that any one living in such areas whether Areca Growers or otherwise, will be so heartless as to refuse to share what they have when acute emergencies arise in their neighbourhood. I would be glad to assure you of this with regard to the Areca Growers.

8. I like to bring to your notice that the Procurement Staff have been already going against the orders of the Government, and have been collecting - I should even say extracting - whatever comes into their hands, with any means, even in excess of the procurable surplus. I have brought this matter to the notice of the Honourable Chief Minister, and during the time of an enquiry, held in that regard, it has been amply proved how, due to this procurement method, cultivable lands have been left to lie fallow for want of cultivation expenses. The present move will aggravate the existing difficulty and will tend to increase the resentment that is already smouldering in the minds of the people.

9. The fact that the Areca Growers who have been left to retain sufficient grain out of their own produce also cultivate their own lands (Paddy) has probably been entirely forgotten, and to step down the quota of rice in the rations of such labourers from 16 ounces to a bare 6 ounces, will be inhuman, and monstrous.

10. I believe the Order of the Revenue Board will not be sustainable in a Court of Law, specially in view of the recent Judgment delivered by the High Court. Apart from this, such a move will negative the very fundamental rights of Citizens guaranteed by the Constitution. I believe this aspect may kindly be borne in mind.

11. I want you to consider that I have been addressing you in this matter not only as the President of the All India Supari Federation, and the Karnataka Malnad Development Society, but also as the Member of the Indian Central Arecanut Committee, and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. I will be forced to take this matter to higher authorities, if the Madras Government do not take action promptly in this matter. It may also be noted that the quantity of grain involved is just one month's difference in ration, and it will be very small indeed. I do not think it is worthwhile disturbing things for this small gain unless it is the intention of the Board of Revenue to wilfully disobey the orders of the Government.

12. May I, therefore, request you Sir, to consider this matter and immediately ask the Board of Revenue to instruct the Collector to cancel the instructions issued to his subordinates, and thus save me of needless trouble of organising the growers and taking determined action.

13. I have sent copies of this communication to the Honourable Minister for Food, Government of Madras, the Civil Supplies Commissioner, Board of Revenue, and to the Collector of

South Kanara, I have requested the last-named to stay his hand and await the orders of the Government in this regard.

Yours truly,

(M. N. BHIDE)

Fmd & Agri (A)

Endtl No: 5762 54/50-1 dt. 16-8-50

Referred to the Bd of Rev (cs) for urgent remarks

14/8/.

The Bd of Rev (cs)
(with 51 copy of pp 1-4 above)

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Food Department.

Memorandum No.21161-A/46.G dated 10th December 46.

Subject: Procurement - Foodgrains - South Kanara District - Allowance to areca gardeners for payment of wages in Kind - Representation - instructions issued.

Reference: From the South Kanara and Coorg Areca Growers' Union, Mangalore, Memorandum dated 3-10-46.

In connection with the representation of the areca gardeners in the South Kanara District that they should be allowed to retain out of the produce of their paddy lands enough grain to pay the labour employed in the areca gardens in kind. Just as in the case of agricultural labour the following proposals have been recommended to the Government.

If an areca garden owner owns paddy lands and produces enough paddy for the purpose he may be allowed to keep with him for the payment of the labour employed for the cultivation of his areca garden for one year a quantity of paddy sufficient to pay the labour required for payment to labourers in kind in connection with the cultivation of his paddy lands. For the purpose of determining the number of labours required for one acre of areca garden may be fixed at two and the period of employment for a year as ten months (excluding the two heavy rainy months) and the quantity to be allowed to each labour should be in accordance with the scale that is usually allowed in the locality for farm servants employed in the cultivation of paddy lands. The areca grower should give the names of these labourers whom he intends engage permanently to the F.S.O. If he cannot give the names or can give the names of only a few of the labourers he proposes to employ he will be responsible for correctly accounting for the quantity of paddy he is allowed to retain. He should give the names of the labourers as soon as he enlists them. If the areca grower employs more than two labourers per acre he has to get ration cards for the extra labourers. No allowance need be made for the members of the family of the labourers employed in the areca gardens, who will get separate ration cards in the usual way.

In case of these areca growers who do not produce paddy or who produce paddy insufficient to cover this deduction no allowance need be made for payment in kind to the labourers employed in the areca garden. The labourers on such cases should be treated as a heavy manual labourer and a ration card issued accordingly.

2. The Government accept the above proposals. The Collector is required to issue necessary instructions to his subordinates at once to give effect to the above proposals. He is also required to issue any further instructions if necessary regarding the procedure to be followed by the areca growers in accounting ~~(the procedure to be followed by the areca growers in accounting~~ for the grain allowed to be retained by them.

Sd/ P. V. Subba Rao,
Secretary to Government.

/True copy/

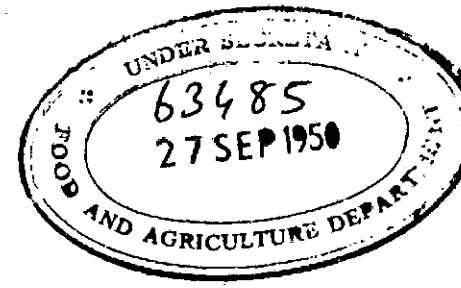
(M.N.BHIDE)

M. N. Bhide,
PLANTER
MUNUAJE, S. KANARA.

PRESIDENT:
ALL INDIA SUPARI (BETELNUT)
FEDERATION
KARNATAKA
MALNAD DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY.
MEMBER:
INDIAN CENTRAL ARECANUT
COMMITTEE.

OFFICE:
LIGHT HOUSE HILL.
P. O. MANGALORE, S. K.

Date 25.9. 1950



Ref. No. A 428/50

To
The Food Secretary,
Government of Madras,
Fort St. George,
M A D R A S.

Sir,

Sub: Allowance to areca growers - Retention of their own rice - Representation regarding the orders of the Board of Revenue - Reminder.

. . . . . .

I am awaiting your kind reply about the representation made by me, concerning the orders of the Board of Revenue, directing the Collector of South Kanara to reduce the rice ration of the labourers in arecanut garden, who were being paid out of their own produce, from 16 ounces to 6 ounces. I had drawn your attention to the fact that this was in contravention of the order of the Government issued in 1948 and which is still in force.

I will be glad to hear from you with regard to the steps that have been taken in this matter.

Yours truly,

(M.N. Bhide)

Two drafts 4/10

Letter No S 7675 A/50-2 dt 3/10/50

To

Sri. M. N. Bhide
Planter, Mundaje
Mangalore. p.o. S. Kanara.

Sir,

Subject: Allowance to areca growers – Retention of their own rice – Representation regarding the orders of Bd to the Collector of S. Kanara

Ref: your letter of 25.9.50:

I am directed to inform you that the matter is engaging the attention of the Govt and a reply will be sent to you in due course

Y.S

P-70

Memo 5-7675-A/50-3 Dt 3/10/50

Subj: Overtisement - Fordgrains - S. Kanara Dt - Allowance to Areca Gardeners for payment of wages in kind - Representation

Ref: Govt Endt No 5-7675-A/50-1 Fin Dt 16/9/50 p 1: 2 f

The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union

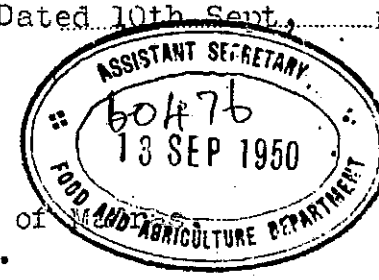
MANGALORE.

ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಡಗು
ಅಡಿಕೆ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರ ಸಂಘ,
ಮಂಗಳೂರು.

Kadri, Mangalore,
Post Kodialbail,

Ref No...

Dated 10th Sept., 19 50



The Secretary,
Food Department, Government of Madras,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Procurement and distribution- Food grains- South Kanara district- Allowance for areca garden labour- Scale of allowance.-

Ref:- Government Memorandum No. 21161-A/46 G Food dated 10-12-1946- Government Memorandum No. 45516-A/48-2 Food, dated 6-11-1948- Board's proceedings Rt No. 87 dated 18-1-1950.-

Not. fwd. wp.

Sri C.S.Shastry, the President of our Union and myself would like to meet you on the 29th or 30th of this month in connection with the subject of the memorandum enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary.

The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union

MANGALORE.

ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಡಗು
ಅಡಿಕೆ ಬೇಸಾಯಗಾರರ ಸಂಘ,
ಮಂಗಳೂರು.

Ref No:—

Kadri, Mangalore,
Post Kodialbail,
Dated 10th Sept., 1950

The Secretary,
Food Department, Government of Madras,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Sir

Sub:- Procurement and distribution- Food grains- South Kanara district- Allowance for areca garden labour- Scale of allowance.-

Ref:- Government Memorandum No. 21161-A/46 G.Food, dated 10-12-1946- Government Memorandum No.45516-A/48-2 Food, dated 6-11-1948- Board's proceedings Rt No. 87 dated 18-1-1950.-

In the references cited above, the Government of Madras were pleased to permit areca growers to retain from out of their own produce, paddy or rice for the payment of areca garden labour and the scale of allowance was fixed at 7 muras of rice per acre to cover a period of 10 months in the year from 1st December to 30th September.

In the year 1949-50 our members sent their applications for making the necessary allowance through the Union. After scrutiny the applications

were submitted by the Union to the concerned authorities and in most cases allowances were made for garden labour and this system of organised approach has worked satisfactorily.

We understand, that in about the middle of August, 1950, the Board of Revenue have directed the Collector of South Kanara to make the same allowance for areca garden labour as is allowed to non-producers and to procure all stocks from areca growers in excess of 6 oz of rice per day. Though such an order necessarily causes great hardship to labour, the Union has directed its members to comply with the demand notices, considering the present emergency.

The order of the Board of Revenue is obviously for the period of the present emergency and does not indicate any reduction in the scale of allowance fixed by the Government earlier. We, we request the Government to make it clear to the District authorities that the recent order of the Board of Revenue is intended to be in force only till the ensuing harvest and that the earlier orders of the Government do stand so far as the allowance from out of 1950-51

The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union

MANGALORE.

ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಡಗು
ಅಡಿಕೆ ಬೇಸಾಯಗಾರರ ಸಂಘ,
ಮಂಗಳೂರು.

Ref No.....

.....19

crop is concerned. The Board's view that the allowance for areca garden labour should be at the scale allowed for non-producers, viz, 6 oz or rice per day is erroneous. The allowance is not made directly to the labourers as such but to the producers of food grains for their labour. Further, the whole question of the scale of allowance was considered and fixed by the Government after due enquiry and it is not necessary at this stage to repeat the arguments justifying an allowance of 7 muras of rice per acre. Any reduction in the allowance of grains would seriously effect all round agricultural efficiency in the areca growing regions.

It is therefore requested that the Government may clarify to the District authorities that so far as the allowance from the ensuing crop is concerned, the orders of the Government referred to above would remain in force.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

Hon Secretary.

Copy to the Collector of South Kanara.

Q2
Dl: issued
27/9/50

Letter 60476/A/50-1 dt. 27-9-50

To,

The Honorary Secretary,
The South Kanara & Coorg Areca
Growers' Union,
Kodialbail P.O. Kadri, N.
Mangalore

Sir,

Sub: Procurement and distribution
Foodgrains – South Kanara Dt – Allowance
for areca garden labour – Scale of
allowance etc.
Ref your letter dt. 07/10.9.50.

I am directed to inform you that
the question is receiving the attention

do
they ~~do~~ not Consider

of the Govt and that ~~it is no need for necessary~~
~~to send~~ it necessary to receive a deputation as suggested by you in the letter cited above.

4.5

25/9/50 25/9/50.

26/9/50

WC 7/11/50 1861

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

NOTE.—This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Rs. | As.

6 NOV.50 C.T.O.

Handed in at (Office of Origin) | Words.

TO PC MERCARAHILL MANGALORE 6.23

Dated at hours

SECRETARY FOOD DEPARTMENT MADRAS GOVERNMENT MADRAS

REQUEST IMMEDIATE ORDERS FIXING SCALE OF ALLOWANCE

FOR ARECA GARDEN LABOUR =

ARECA GROWERS UNION MANGALORE

N.B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed in written after the sum

J. As.

Please see the telegram from Areca growers union, Mangalore on p.1 above. Similar representations received from Sri. M.N. Bhaipla, Planter Mundaje and from the South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union have been referred to the Bd of Revenue for remarks and it is awaited. Bd has been reminded only on 3.11.50. In the circumstance no action is called for on this. This may be added to main file.

pp 1-4 of ml f

pp 13-14 of ml f

p 3 of Rl f.

8.11.50

10.11.50

The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers Union

MANGALORE.

ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಡಗು
ಅಡಿಕೆ ಬೇಸಾಯಗಾರರ ಸಂಘ,
ಮಂಗಳೂರು.

Kadri, Kodialbail Post.
Mangalore.

Ref No.....

14th October, 50

The Hon'ble Minister for Food,

Government of Madras,

Camp, Mangalore.

Sir,

Sub:- Civil supplies- procurement- allowance to areca garden labour- scale of allowance.

On the above subject, we want to submit to you in person the Memorandum enclosed and want to discuss with you the question in all its bearing. We seek an interview at your Sullia camp any time on19-10-50. We are told that you would stay some time at Sullia and it would be very convenient to us to meet you there on 19-10-50. Hoping to be granted the interview and expecting your reply to our Mangalore office given above.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

For The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union,

Hon. Secretary.

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO

THE HON'BLE MINISTER FOR FOOD, GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

By

THE SOUTH KANARA AND COORG ARECA GROWERS' UNION.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- CIvil supplies- procurement allowance to areca garden labour - scale of allowance.

Ref:- 1) Govt. Memorandum No. 21161-A/46 - G, Food dated 10-12-'46.

2) Govt. Memorandum No. 45516-A Food dated 6-11-'48

3) B.P.R.T. 87/50 dated 18-1-'50.

In the references cited above, the Government of Madras were pleased to permit areca garden owners who also owned paddy fields in South Kanara District to keep with them paddy or rice necessary for the payment of wages in kind to the labourers employed by them in the areca gardens for a period of 10 months in the year excluding October and November. The scale of allowance was fixed at 7 muras of rice per acre per year.This scale was fixed on the basis of 16 Oz. of rice per labourer per day. Restrictions were also imposed by the Government to prevent any misuse of the allowance.

In August 1950 the Government have reduced the scale of allowance to 6 Oz. of rice per labourer per day. The Union has protested against the said reduction from 16 oz. to 6 oz of rice and made necessary representations to the Government by letter dated 10/9/1950 and the Union has been informed that the question is receiving the attention of the Government. The main crop of the year has been harvested and procurement work has already commenced. The members of the Union have already sent the applications to the concerned authorities for making allowance at the rate of 7 muras of rice per acre per year; but the authorities without clear instructions from the

Government are not in a position to make the allowance at the original scale fixed.

We invite the kind attention of the Hon'ble Minister to the fact that the scale of 7 muras of rice per acre for 2 labourers per year was fixed under the references cited above after full enquiry and any reduction in the scale of allowance would cause great hardship to the people concerned. With 6 oz. of rice per labourer it is impossible to carry on any cultivation. Agricultural production has already suffered considerably owing to the change in the immemorial custom of paying all agricultural labourers in kind. It was the custom in this district prior to 1944 to pay all agricultural labourers at the rate of 4½ lbs. of rice per adult per day, irrespective of the rise and fall in the price of rice. Under such economy the labourers were contented and the agriculturists retained the allegiance of labourers. With the introduction of the scheme of intensive procurement in 1944 and the informal rationing in the rural areas, this good old custom has been compulsorily stopped with the result that the wages are rising year by year, whereas turnover of work is decreasing. At the present scale of uncertain rations supplied under the informal rationing system, the entire agricultural production is bound to go down.

It is wrong to think that areca garden labour is not connected with food production. In arecanut gardens plantains are normally cultivated and a considerable portion of the plaintains coming to the market are grown in the areca gardens. Besides, arecanut is the only money crop for the rural people in the arecanut growing regions in this district and several of the arecanut garden owners have expended much labour and money for increasing food production in recent years.

Further we also invite your kind attention to the fact that the areca gardens are mostly situated in

the Malnad region of the district where labour is scarce. The agriculturists in the Malnad own both paddy fields and areca gardens. The paddy fields afford work only for a couple of months in the year and during the major part of the year labourers have to be maintained by engaging them in areca garden cultivation.

The allowance of 16 oz of rice to the garden labourers is to be made only from the produce of the garden owners and they are not asking anything from the grainshops set up by the Government. Most of the areca garden owners are taking keen interest in food grain production with the main object of enabling them to feed their labourers. If the Government goes back upon its earlier orders and reduces the scale of rations to 6 oz per labourer per day, the agriculturists would loose all interest in food grain production and consequently as an indirect effect of Government orders there will be less paddy production in the district.

On this occasion we also request you to consider the advisability of introducing the levy scheme instead of the present system of individual assessment of surplus. Though theoratically speaking the assessment of individual surplus appears to be sound, it in practice it is having an adverse effect on food production. Under the existing system every cultivator is under perpetual state of dread and insecurity and therefore he lacks the necessa interest to produce more grains. But if instead, the quota of each cultivator is fixed and made unalterable and he is assured a sense of security with regard to the rest of his stock, it would give a great incentive to grow more food grains by intensive cultivation. There should be no objection to sell in the open market the grains left after complying with the levy demand. If informal rationing with an open market side by side, and a sense of security is assured to the cultivators the food situation

in the State is bound to improve.

In South Kanara there has been absolutely no departure from the system introduced under the D.O.I. rules in 1944 and it has been responsible for reducing food production from year to year, notwithstanding the departmental reports to the contrary. We are sure that Levy scheme would enhance the food production in this district immensely.

Therefore, we request you to consider the Memorandum favourably and issue early orders.

Yours faithfully,

Pu
14-10-50

President,
The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union.

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO

The Hon'ble Minister for Food, Government of Madras.

By

The South Kanara and Coorg Areca Growers Union.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
28 OCT 1950
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

MINISTER FOR FOOD
GOVT. OF MADRAS

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
27 OCT 1950
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Seen Ftt.

70787

Sir,

Sub:- Civil supplies - Procurement- allowance to areca garden labour- scale of allowance.

Ref:- 1) Government Memorandum No. 21161-A/46- G, Food Dated 10/12/46:

2) Government Memorandum no. 45516-A Food, Dated 6/11/48.

3) B.P. R.T. 87/50 dated 18-1-50.

In the references cited above, the Government of Madras were pleased to permit areca garden owners who also owned paddy fields in South Kanara district to keep with them paddy or rice necessary for the payment of wages in kind to the labourbrs employed by them in the areca gardens for a period of 10 months in the year excluding October and November. The scale of allowance was fixed at 7 muras of rice per acre per year. This scale was fixed on the basis of 16 oz. of rice per labourer per day. Restrictions were also imposed by the Government to prevent any misuse of the allowance.

In August 1950, the Government have reduced the scale of allowance to 6 oz of rice per labourer per day. The Union has protested against the said reduction from 16 oz to 6 oz. of rice and made necessary representations to the Government by letter dated 10/9/50 and the Union has been informed that the question is receiving the attention of the Government. The main crop of the year has been harvested and procurement work has already commenced. The members of the union have already sent their applica ions to the concerned authorities for making allowance at the rate of 7 muras of rice per acre per year; but the authoritieswithout clear instructions from the Government are not in a position to

make the allowance at the original scale fixed.

We invite the kind attention of the Hon'ble Minister to the fact that the scale of 7 muras of rice per acre for 2 labourers per year was fixed under the references cited above after full enquiry and any reduction in the scale of allowance would cause great hardship to the people concerned with 6 oz of rice per labourer it is impossible to carry on any cultivation. Agricultural production has already suffered considerably owing to the change in the immemorial custom of paying all agricultural labourers in kind. It was the custom in this district prior to 1944 to pay all agricultural labourers at the rate of 4 lbs of rice per adult per day irrespective of the rise and fall in the price of rice. Under such economy the labourers were contented and the agriculturists retained the allegience of labourers. With the introduction of the scheme of intensive procurement in 1944 and the informal rationing in the rural areas, this good old custom has been complsorily stopped with the result that the wages are rising year by year whereas turnover of work is decreasing. At the present scale of uncertain rations supplied under the informal rationing system the entire agricultural production is bound to go down.

It is wrong to think that areca garden labour is not connected with food production. In arecanut gardens plantains are normally cultivated and a considerable portion of the plantains coming to the market are grown in the areca gardens. Besides, arecanut is the only money crop for the rural people in the arecanut growing regions in this district and several of the arecanut garden owners have expended much labour and money for increasing food production om recent years.

Further, we also invite your kind attention to the fact that the areca gardens are mostly situated in the Malnad region of the district where labour is scarce. The agriculturists in the Malnad own both paddy fields and areca gardens. The paddy fields afford work only for a

couple of months in the year and during the major part of the year labourers have to be maintained by engaging them in areca garden cultivation.

The allowance of 16 oz rice to the garden labourers is to be made only from the produce of the garden owners and they are not asking for anything from the grain-shops set up by the Government. Most of the areca garden owners are taking keen interest in food grain production with the main object of enabling them to feed their labourers. If the Government go back upon their earlier orders and reduce the scale of rations to 6 oz. per labourer per day, the agriculturists would loose all interest in food grain production and consequently as an indirect effect of Government orders there will be less paddy production in the district.

On this occasion we also request you to consider the advisability of introducing the Levy scheme instead of the present system of individual assessment of surplus. Though theoratically speaking the assessment of individual surplus appears sound, in practice it is having an adverse effect on food production. Under the existing system every cultivator is under perpetual state of dread and insecurity and therefore he lacks the necessary interest to produce more grains. But if instead, the quota of each cultivator is fixed and made unalterable and he is assured a sense of security with regard to the rest of his stock, it would give a great incentive to grow more food grains by intensive cultivation. There should be no objection to sell in the open market the grains left after complying with the Levy demand. If informal rationing with an open market side by side, and a sense of security is assured to the cultivators, the food situation in the State is bound to improve.

In South Kanara there has been absolutely no departure from the system introduced under the D.O.I. Rules in 1944 and it has been responsible for reducing food production from year to year, notwithstanding the

departmental reports to the contrary. We are sure that Levy scheme would enhance the food production in this district immensely.

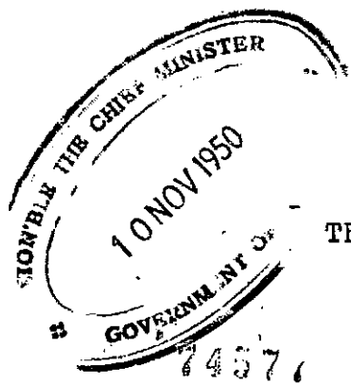
Thefefore, we request you to consider the Memorandum favourably and issue early orders.

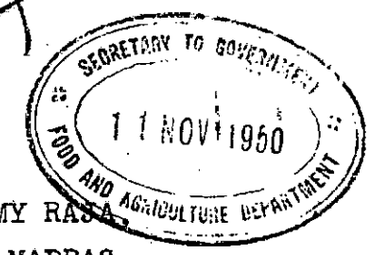
Yours faithfully,

Sullia.
~~Puttur~~
19/10/50.

President,
The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union.

Food





MEMORANDUM

TO

THE HON'BLE SRI P.S. KUMARASWAMY RAJA,
CHIEF MINISTER, GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

BY

THE SOUTH KANARA AND COORG ARECA GROWERS' UNION,
KADRI, MANGALORE, POST KODIALBAIL.

----oOo----

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Procurement- South Kanara District- Allowance for farm labourers.-

Ref:- Government Memorandum No. 21101-A/46 G Food.-
Government Memo No. 45516-A Food dated 6-11-1948-
B.B.P.Rt. 87/50 dated 18-1-1950-.

Not printed

The Union and State Governments are urging our agriculturists to produce more in their fields and farms. " Produce more or perish" is the slogan of the day. Being yourself an agriculturist, it is unnecessary to tell you that all progress in the direction of agricultural production depends on the availability, well being and efficiency of labour. Till the introduction of compulsory procurement and informal rationing, it was the immemorial custom and usage in our district to pay all agricultural labourers in kind. The wages were paid at the rate of 2 seers (·64 oz) of rice per day per labourer. Vide the South Kanara District Gazeteer. The Government of Madras recognising this custom had made due provision in the Procurement Orders passed from time to time to the effect that while determining the surplus of Foodgrains from a ryot due allowance should be made for payment of wages in kind to the labourers employed by him. Vide Clause 3 (2) (d) of the Procurement Order.

In the District of South Kanara there are a large number of ryots who are mixed crop cultivators i.e. they have paddy field and areca garden cultivation. Permanent labourers are maintained for working in the areca gardens. The Government of Madras in the references cited above ordered that while determining the requirements of agriculturists who own paddy lands and areca gardens, an annual allowance at the rate of 7 muras (7 Imperial Maunds) of rice per acre of areca garden should be made. This scale of allowance was fixed on the basis that two labourers are employed for 10 months in the year for cultivation of an acre of areca garden and that the labourers are paid part of their wages in kind at the rate of 16 oz of rice per day. When this allowance has been allowed for the past 4 years, suddenly in August, 1950, The Board of Revenue, has ordered that the above referred allowance should be reduced from 16 to 6 oz of rice and that the balance 10 oz should be obtained from the Ration Shops by way of other grains. Representations were made to the Government early in September to restore the original scale of allowance but we regret to say that no order has been received so far. In the meanwhile the grains produced in the main crop of the year are being procured without making due allowance for the farm labourers.

We invite your kind attention to the fact that even absentee landlords living in towns and cities are allowed rations at the scale of 10 oz of rice. The Board of Revenue has failed to note that the allowance for areca garden labour is made to Foodgrain

producers only and therefore it is no t correct to state that the areca garde n labour should be allowed only on the scale allowed to non-producers of grains. The producers of foodgrains have got their right to retain the quantity required for all their labourers and the powers of the Gove rnment are limited to procure only the real surplus. The fundamental rights securing guaranteeing the ownership of property have no meaning so long as we are not allowed to use our own grains for our requirements.

We also invite your kind attention to the fact that it is only the areca growers that have increased food production in the recent years in this district and it is really unjust to order that they cannot retain their own grains at th e scale of 16 oz of rice per labourer per day. No agricultural labourer could be expected to work with 6 oz of rice per day. These labourers are living in informal rationed areas where non-rice portion of the rations are generally not available. The total allowance made for areca garden labour in 1949-50 was 720 tons and by reducing the allowance from 16 to 6 oz the Government hopes to procure 450 tons of rice more. But they forget the fact that a corresponding quantity of wheat etc has to be given by the Government. The Government also should not fail to note that " necessity knows no laws" and as long as the rules are intolerable, people will be forced to circumvent the law.

Therefor e, we request you to restore the original scale of allowance for areca garden labour.

Yours faithfully,

Dated, 5-11-1950.

President.

Please see the memorandum to H.C.M from the South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' union, Mangalore at pp 1-3 above. Similar petition has already been received from the same association and the matter is under the consideration of the Govt in a separate file. No action is called for on this. This may be ~~lodged and~~ added to connected file.

17-11-50

19-11-50

22/11/50.

BOARD OF REVENUE (CIVIL SUPPLIES)

SUBJECT:

PROCUREMENT - Paddy - South Kanara district - Allowances to Areca gardeners for payment of wages in kind - Report - Submitted. -

L.o. orders obtained Vide p9 R/f below

75419

BOARD'S REF.NO.125056/U5/50 dated 14-11-1950.

From

SRI V. S. HEJMADI, I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Civil Supplies.

SRI K. SUBBA RAO, B.A.,
Joint Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies.

p Kabeera

REF: Endorsement No.57675/A/50-1 dated 16-9-1950 of the Government Food and Agriculture Department on the copy of the letter from Sri M.N.Bhide, dated 31-8-1950.

---

p5 & 7 (E)

In their Memo No.21161/A/46-6 dated 10-12-1946, the Government allowed the areca gardeners in the South Kanara district to retain out of the produce of their paddy lands enough grain to pay the labour employed in the areca gardens in kind, just as in the case of agricultural labour in accordance with the scale that is usually allowed in the locality for farm servants employed in the cultivation of paddy lands. This concession was withdrawn in Government Memo No.30266-A/47-2 Food dated 27-6-1947 and later restored in Government Memo 45516-A/48-1 Food dated 6-11-48. The Collector of South Kanara has reported that there are no farm servants as such in the district and that in the absence of a scale of allowance [redacted] farm servants, the areca garden owners were being allowed to retain at the rate of 16 oz. of rice per adult per day for payment of wages to the labourers working in their areca gardens.

x pp 93-94 of (E)

pp 9-11 of (S)

2. In view of the critical rice position in August 1950 the Board issued instructions to the Collector of South Kanara in its L. Dis.112377/U5/50 dated 18-8-1950 to refix the surplus available with the areca growers allowing at the rate of 6 oz. per adult per day and to procure the excess.

x e B

3. It is against these orders of the Board that Sri M.N. Bhide, Planter, South Kanara has now petitioned to the Government.

4. This petition was referred to the Collector of South Kanara for remarks. It is seen from the reports of the Collector that he allowed the areca gardeners prior to the receipt of the Board's L. Dis. No.112377/U5/50 CS dated 18-8-1950, to retain at the rate of 16 oz. of rice per adult per day for payment of wages in kind to the labourers on a misapprehension of the instructions issued by the Government in their Memo No.21161/A/46-6 dated 10-12-1946. In the absence of a practice of employing regular farm servants and in the absence of any scale of allowances in respect of them, the action of the Collector in having treated the labourers working in the areca gardens on a par with producers of paddy and in having allowed them to retain at 16 oz. of rice per adult per day was not correct. The Collector should have brought to the notice of the Board the absence of any scale of allowances for farm servants and should have asked for instructions as to the scale of allowances to be adopted in the case of the labourers working in the areca gardens based on the orders of the Government in their Memo No.21161/A/46-6 dated 10-12-46. But the Collector did not do so. A copy of the report of the Collector of South Kanara is submitted for the information of the Government.

p53 & 7 (E)

A

p53 & 7 (E)

5. The food position in the State is very critical and the Government have already reduced the rice content of the ration from 8 to 6 oz. per adult per day when even partial producers (i.e. tenants) in the South Kanara district are allowed only at the scale

p.t.o.

6 oz. rice per adult per day from the landlord's share, after they have exhausted their share, the Board does not consider it necessary or justifiable to give any greater concession to the labourers working in the areca gardens than the tenants.

K. Srinivasan

For JOINT SECRETARY.

To

The Secretary to the Government,
Food and Agriculture Department,
Madras with enclosure.

14/11/50

Copy to the Collector of South Kanara.

PRN.14.11.

Copy of letter C.No.W7/21709/50 dated 7-10-1950 from the Collector of South Kanara to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Board of Revenue (CS), Chepauk, Madras.

SUB: PROCUREMENT - Rice and paddy - South Kanara district - Allowance to areca growers for payment of wages in kind - representation - Report. -

REF: Board's Ref.No.125056/U5/50 GS dated 20-9-1950.

According to the instructions in Government Memorandum No. 21161/A/46-6 dated 10-12-1946, the areca growers in this District are permitted to retain paddy, required by them for payment of wages in kind to labourers employed in their areca gardens. According to the same order the quantity to be allowed to each labourer should be in accordance with the scale that is usually allowed in the locality for farm servants employed in the cultivation of paddy fields. As there are no farm servants in this district, it is presumed that these labourers are to be allowed at the scale applicable to the actual cultivators, who get 16 ozs. from their produce. As my presumption is now held to be incorrect, these labourers will be allowed only at the rate applicable to non-producers hereafter.

/True copy/

PRN.14.11.

14.11.50.

H.V. Deekshitar
Superintendent 14-11-1950

FOOD & AGRICULTURE(A).

MEMORANDUM No. 57675-A/50-7 D/12--12--1950.

Sub: Procurement - Paddy - South Kanara District - Allowances to Areca Gardeners for payment of wages in Kind - Board's proposal - Accepted.

Ref: From the Board of Revenue(C.S) Ref.125056-U5/50 dated 14-11-50.

In the circumstances stated by the Board in the reference cited, the Govt. accept the Board's suggestion that it is neither necessary nor desirable to give a greater concession to the labourers working in the areca gardens than to the tenants in South Kanara District.

In this connection the Govt. desire to know whether the conditions under which the rule was relaxed in Government Memo.No. 45516-A1/48-2 Food and Agriculture dated 6--11--1948 particularly condition (1) and (2) were strictly enforced in working these orders issued by the Government. The Board of Revenue(C.S) is accordingly requested to obtain and submit a report in the matter at an early date.

To
The Bd. of Rev(C.S).

DRAFT II.

LETTER No. 57625-A/60-8 D/12 --12--1950.

To

Sri M.N.Bhide,
Planter, Hundagi,
Mangalore P.O. South Kanara.

Sir,

Sub: Procurement - Foodgrains - South Kanara District - Allowance to Areca Gardeners for payment of wages in kind - Representation.

Ref: Your letter dated 31--8--1950.

I am directed to inform you that the request for allowing the areca gardeners to retain out of their produce the quantity required to pay the labourers employed by them at the rate of 16 oz. per adult per day cannot be complied with.

Y.S.

Copy to President,
The S.Kanara & Coorg,
Areca Growers Union,
Kadiri, Kodial-bail P.O.
Mangalore (w.r.t. his
Lr. dated 10-9-50)

The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers Union

MANGALORE.

ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಡಗು
ಅಡಿಕೆ ಬೇಸಾಯಗಾರರ ಸಂಘ,
ಮಂಗಳೂರು.

Kadri, Mangalore,
Post Kodialbail,

Ref No.....

Dated 12th Decr., 1950

83385

The Secretary,
Food & Agricultural Department,
Government of Madras,
Madras.

Sir,

Sub:- Procurement- Allowance for Areca garden labour- South Kanara District.

Ref:- Our letters dated 5-11-1950 and 21-11-1950.

We invite your kind attention to the fact that Compulsory Procurement in respect of the main crop of the current fasli is being done by allowing only at the rate of 6 oz of rice per labourer per day. It is seen from the reports of the Hon'ble Minister's statement in the Assembly that the Government considers that it would be expedient to give up Rural Rationing in all the districts except Malabar and the Nilgiris. The areca growers who employ labour will be put to great difficulties if their grains are procured in the first instance and thereafter Rural Rationing is

85/12/51

Reminder

typed by 10.1.52 A/. issue 9-1-52

52 F&A (A)

Memo No. 57675-A/50-10 D/ 8.1.51

Sub: Procurement - Paddy - S. Kanara Dt - Allowance to Areca gardens for payment of wages in kind - Bd's Report - Called for.

Ref Govt Memo No. 57675-A/50-7 F&A dt 12.12.50

FWD 12/1/52

The Bd of Rev (CS) is requested to state when the report called for in para 2 of the govt memo cited may be expected

5.1.51

6.1.51

8/1/52

Bd of Rev (CS)

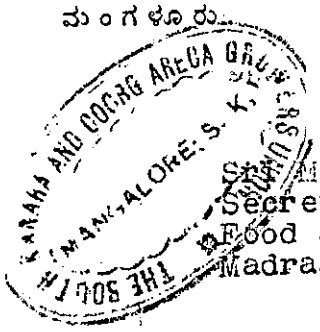
The South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers Union

MANGALORE.

ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಡಗು
ಅಡಿಕೆ ಬೇಸಾಯಗಾರರ ಸಂಘ,
ಮಂಗಳೂರು.

Ref No.....

Kadri, Mangalore,
Post Kodialbail,
Dated 31st, December, 1950



Sri M.A.Kuttalalingam Pillai, B.A.,
Secretary to Government,
Food and Agriculture Department,
Madras.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Procurement- Foodgrains-
South Kanara District- Allowance
for areca gardeners for payment
of wages in kind- Representation.

Ref:- Our letter dated 10-9-1950 and
your reply No.57675 A/50-8
dated 12-12-1950.

We regret to note the contents of your letter dated 12th inst refusing to restore the allowance for areca garden labour, particularly on the eve of the decision to abolish Rural Rationing. We should like to know from you as to how the labourers could be maintained with only 6 oz of rice. The over all ration is supposed to be 12 oz and 16 oz for heavy manual labourer If rural rationing were to continue, it could have been suggested that the balance 10 oz would issued by way of wheat millo etc, but since our

rationing is abolished with effect from 1st January, 1951 there is no chance of getting the non-rice portion of the rations. The allowance for areca garden labour was reduced to 6 oz of rice on the assurance that the balance 10 oz would be given from the ration shops by way of non-rice rations. It is seen from the Press Report that the Intensive Procurement Order will be replaced by a scheme of easy levy system. It should atleast be made clear now that the areca garden owners would be allowed to retain their requirements for the garden labour so that atleast those who have got the 2nd crop would be enable to maintain their labourers. We would request you to make this point clear to the District authorities. We shall be obliged if an early reply is sent.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

r of South Kanara.

Pl. see

Endorsement no. 57675-A/50-11 D/ 18-1-57

18/1/57

Referred to the Board of Rev(C-S) for urgent remarks.

7/1/57 Assistant Secretary, Food & Agriculture Dept.

12/1/57 12-1-57

To

The Board of Revenue(C-S)

(With a copy of pp 1-2)

T Pillai 14/1/57

O.N.

A-I

Submitted for perusal of pp. 1-2 ante. Subject to orders a draft endorsement to Board of Rev(C-S) is submitted.

12/1/57

BOARD OF REVENUE(CIVIL SUPPLIES)

Subject:- Procurement - Paddy - South Kanara district - Allowance to Areca Gardeners for payment of wages in kind - further report.

- -

Board's Ref.125056-U5-50-6,
Dated 22nd January 1951.

From

Sri V.S.Hejmadi, I.C.S., 5589
Commissioner of Civil Supplies.

Sri K. Subba Rao, B.A.,
Joint Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies.

Ref: Government Memo.57675-A-50-7 ~~and~~ 10 Food & Agriculture dated 12-12-50 and 9-1-1951.

The report of the Collector of South Kanara is awaited. The Board's reply will be submitted to the Government as soon as the report of the Collector is received.

for Joint Secretary. 22/1/51

22.1.51.

TO

The Secretary to the Government, Food & Agriculture Department, Madras.

SO/22/1/

BOARD OF REVENUE (CIVIL SUPPLIES)

Subject

PROCUREMENT - Paddy - South Kanara District - Allowances to Areca growers for payment of wages in kind - Certain conditions prescribed by Government and action taken by the Collector - Report submitted.

From 20576

Board's Ref.No. 125056/U5/50-7 dated 19--3--1951.

Sri V.S. Hejmadi, I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Civil Supplies.

Sri K.S. Prakasa Rao, B.A.,
Joint Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies.

Ref:-1.Govt. Memo 57675-A/50-7(Food and Agriculture) 12.12.50 and reminders thereon dated 9.1.51 and 19.2.51.
2. Board's Ref.125056-U5-50 -7 dated 2.3.51.
3. From the Collector of South Kanara D,Dis. 2186-51 dt.26.2.51.

--

Submitted to Government with reference to their orders in para 2 of their memo first cited.

K.Rajamanickam
FOR JOINT SECRETARY.

20/3/51

20.3.51.

To the Secretary to Government,
Food and Agriculture Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.
(with encl.)

MRJ 20/2/

Copy of letter D.Dis.No.2186/51 dated 26.2.51 from the Collector of South Kanara to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Board of Revenue, Chepauk, Madras.

PROCUREMENT -Paddy and rice . South Kanara District - Concession to areca growers - rate of allowance - report -

Ref:-Board's Ref.No. 125056-U5-50-5 dated 4.1.51.

--

The conditions under which the rule was relaxed in Government Memorandum 45516-A/48-2 Food and Agricultural dated 6.11.48 particularly condition (1) and (2) were strictly enforced in this district.

2. In this district the I crop is the main crop and the extent of the II and III crops are not appreciable. Though according to the proviso to clause 3(3)(ii) of the Intensive Procurement Order the allowances have to be made to cultivators from harvest to harvest the procedure followed in this district was to make allowances from the main long term crop till the next main long term crop according to the instructions contained in Board's L.Dis. No. 012035-UII-49(CS) dated 12.9.49 and B.P. Mis 13/50 dated 9.6.50.

/ True/Copy /

MRJ 20/3/

C.N.Rajagopala 20/3/51
Superintendent.

20.3.51.

South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union

MANGALORE.

ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಡಗು
ಅಡಿಕೆ ಬೇಸಾಯಗಾರರ ಸಂಘ,
ಮಂಗಳೂರು.

Kadri, Mangalore-3,

Ref No.....

Dated 18th March, 1951

Appl.

To

20863

The Secretary,
Food and Agriculture Department,
Government of Madras,
Fort St. George,
Madras.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
22 MAR 1951
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Sir,

I am herewith enclosing a copy of the Memorandum requesting the District Collector to exempt the arecanut growers from the operation of the levy scheme for the reasons adduced in the Memorandum.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary.

MEMORANDUM

THE COLLECTOR OF SOUTH KANARA, MANGALORE

THE SOUTH KANARA & COORG ARECA GROWERS' UNION,
KADRI, MANGALORE.

That Government of Madras, while abolishing rural rationing, have declared that the Intensive Procurement scheme would be replaced by an easy levy scheme. To our knowledge the Government have not so far promulgated any order regarding the levy scheme. But the village Shanbhogues appear to have been directed by the Collector to prepare levy notices in respect of this year's sugri crop on the following scale:

adjoining the Ghats, the rent is even less. The average yield in the suggi crop is only about 12-15 muras of paddy per acre. The cultivation expenses per crop even under the Intensive Procurement Scheme was computed at 8 muras of paddy inclusive of seeds. Therefore, if a cultivator complies with the levy demand he will not be left with any paddy or rice for payment of rent to his landlord and in some cases even for domestic consumption.

Even under the Intensive Procurement Order the landholders were allowed to collect their requirements from tenants. Under the present levy scheme there would be nothing left to the landholders to collect from tenants. Under Intensive Procurement Order, the [illegible] grain requirements for payment of wages to their garden l[illegible] the rate of 2 labourers per acre for 10 months in the year. With the abolition of rural rationing the areca growers have to feed not only their labourers but also the dependents of the labourers. If the domestic requirements of the areca growers and also that of their labourers are taken into consideration more than 95 percent of the areca growers would have no surplus of paddy or rice at all. [illegible]

The current price of rice in the rural area ranges between 25 to 42 rupees per mura and this price is bound to go up still higher if the Government procures practically 50 percent of ~~the produce of~~

the produce of this year's suggi crop. It may also be noted that out of a population of 18 lakhs in this district, 15 lakhs are living in the rural areas. Out of the said 15 lakhs about 8 lakhs are non-producers who were entirely depending on rations supplied by the stores. Out of the remaining 7 lakhs about 3½ lakhs are insufficient producers. If the Government procures the paddy or rice on the above mentioned scale, 7 lakhs of non-producers and 3½ lakhs of insufficient producers will have to starve and die. The Government have erred in treating South Kanara as a self sufficient district with regard to Food-grains. When there was compulsory Procurement and rationing even in the villages this district was importing more than 10 thousand tons of grains per year. Inspite of imports and strict control over consumption, cardholders in the villages were not getting their full rations

Therefore, the above Union requests you to exempt the areca growers from the levy scheme or make such other modifications in the scheme as are deemed fit and proper under the circumstances of the case.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary.

Copy to:
The Secretary, Food and Agriculture Department,
Government of Madras, Fort St. George, Madras.

F2AA(A)

Subd - for perusal of M.1-6 above.
B above :- A report has already been called for on this point, i.e. the question of making grain

BOARD OF REVENUE(CIVIL SUPPLIES)
ABSTRACT

35316

****

PROCUREMENT - Paddy and Rice - South Kanara District - Levy Scheme - allowances to areca gardeners for payment of wages in kind to the labourers - Petition from South Kanara andCoorg areca gardeners ~~workers~~, Mangalore. - Report Submitted.

.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v.

Board's Ref.No.13808.U.5.51-2 C.S
dated 16-5-195

From

SRI M.V.SUBRAMANIAN I.C.S.
COMMISSIONER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES.

****

SRI K.S.PRAKASA RAO B.A.
JOINT SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES

****

55 above. Ltr fwd not rcvd. 6/5/51 Office file.

REF: 1. Government Endorsement No.57675.A.50-11.dated 18-1-1951 and 7-5-1951.
2. Board's Ref.No.13808.U.5.51.1 dated 31-1-1951.
3. From.Collector, South.Kanara.L.Dis.4759-51.dated 22-3-1951.
4. Memo.No.57675.A/50-14.Food and Agriculture dated 7-5-1951.

****

Submitted to Government.

2. In the circumstances reported by the Collector, the Board has no further remarks to offer.

KLN/16.5

16.5.51.

FOR JOINT SECRETARY. 16/5

To
The Secretary to Government,
Food and Agriculture Department,
Fort St.George, M A D R A S.(with enclosure)

Copy of Letter L.Dis.No.4759/51 dated 22-3-1951 From Collector, South Kanara, Mangalore To The Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Board of Revenue, Chepauk, Madras.

***

SUB: PROCUREMENT - Foodgrains - South Kanara District - allowance for areca gardeners for payment of wages in kind - Representation - report.

***

REF: Board's Ref.No.13808-U.5.51.C.S.dated 31-1-1951.

***

Now that there is no rural rationing in this district, the question of the scale of rations to be retained by the areca gardeners does not arise. The easy levy scheme has nothing to do with the allowances or requirement to be retained by the producers. It is based on the extent of cultivation by the producers irrespective of their requirements. The areca gardeners are therefore at liberty to retain their requirements for the garden labour after satisfying the levy demand.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.).....
FOR COLLECTOR.

/True Copy/

G.N.Rajagopalan 16/5/51
SUPERINTENDENT.

KEN/16.5

16.5.51

Letter No. 5767 S-A/50-1597 9-6-57.

To

The Secretary,
South Kanara & Coorg
Areca growers Union.
Mangalore.

Sir,

Sub:- C.S. - Foodgrains Procurement
- S. Kanara dt. -
Allowance of grain to Areca
gardeners for payment
of wages in kind to labourers -
Position under levy System of
procurement

Ref:- Your letter dt. 31/5/57.

With reference to the
point raised in your letter cited
I am directed to state that
under the levy System of procurement
which is now being worked in S. Kanara
dt., only a portion of the
surplus grain with the producer
will be procured, and therefore
the practice of allowing any grain
to areca gardeners for payment
of wages in kind to labourers
employed in the areca gardens
does not arise under this System
of Procurement. I am therefore
to say that the areca gardeners
after surrendering the levy
demand (which is fixed on an ad hoc scale)
can utilize the remain
for stocks for payment of wages
in kind to the labourers.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
31/5/57

Sd/-
8/6/57

Yours faithfully,

5767-B/50

Subj: Procurement and distribution - Foodgrains - South Kanara Dt - Allowance for areca garden labour - Scale of allowance - Representation

pp 1-3 ~~cf~~

Ref: Letter dt 10.8.50 from Sri. N.S. Bhat Hon. Secretary to the South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers's union.

Job

Please see the letter from the Hon. Secretary, to the South Kanara and Coorg Areca Growers' union, Mangalore at pp 1-3 cf.

He has stated that the govt permits the areca growers to retain from out of their own produce, paddy or rice for the payment of areca garden labour and the scale of allowance was fixed at 7 muras of rice per acre to cover a period of 10 months in the year from 1st December to 30th September. But the Bd of Revenue have directed recently the collector of S. Kanara to make the same allowance for areca garden labour as is allowed to non-producers and to procure all stocks from areca growers in excess of 6 oz of rice per day.

He has requested to clarify whether the recent order of Bd of Revenue is intended to be in force only till the ensuing harvest ~~and~~ not that the earlier orders of the govt do stand so far as the allowance from out of 1950-51 crop is concerned.

In this connection it is submitted that similar representation has been

Encld: W

Spare copy put up at (W)

received from Sri. M. N. Bhide, President Karnataka Malnad Development Society and it has been referred to Bd of Rev (CS) for remarks and it is awaited. It is therefore not necessary to call for remarks on this representation.

But ~~in connection with the matter was to be discussed on a deputation~~ the Union desires to meet the Secretary ~~for orders whether this may be accepted and~~ or whether the Union may be told that the ~~Bd's remarks~~ question may be awaited is receiving the attention of the Govt. and that there is no need to send a deputation

19/9/50 — 19/9/50 — 19/9/50 — 21/9/50

A. above

A draft letter is submitted for approval

25-9-50 — 25-9-50 — 26/9/50

Sub: Procurement - Foodgrains - Allowance to areca growers - Retention of their own rice - S. Kanara Dt - Representation

Ref: 1. Petition dt 31.8.50 from Sri. M. N. Bhide Planter, Mundaje, S. Kanara Dt.

2. Letter dt 25/9/50 from Sri. M. N. Bhide

To Bd

Please see the letter from Sri. M. N. Bhide Planter, Mundaje, Mangalore on p 7 cf. The Bd's remarks have been called on the representation referred to by him in the letter 2nd cited. A reply may be given to him

Subject to orders a draft letter is submitted for approval.

A draft reminder to Bd also is submitted for approval.

MR 3/10/50

WD 4/10/50

Secretary, Food: 6[illegible]34

Please see the enclosed representation from the South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union. I granted an interview to the deputationists at Sullia on the 19th inst. I was not impressed that there is much of a case. The Memorandum may be examined.

Jo ws

Please see above and the representation of the South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers Union at pp 3-9 ef.

Their requests are

1) that the areca garden owners may be permitted to keep with them paddy or rice necessary for the payment of wages in kind to the labourers employed by them in the areca gardens for a period of 10 months in a year at the ~~ra~~ original rate of 16 oz of rice per labourer per day instead of 6 oz of rice per labourer per day recently ordered by the Bd of Revenue (CS). and

(2) that the levy scheme may be introduced in S. Kanara Dt.

Request No. 1 above

It is submitted that similar representation has been received from

But even now, if I remember, the areca grower is enjoying some such concession

mas 4/11/50

A on p 7 ef

this is of the ef -

Sri. M. N. Bhide, President, Karnataka Malnad Development Society and it has been referred to Bd of Rev(Cs) for remarks and it is awaited. No further action seems necessary on this.

Request 2 on plaint: It has since been decided by the Govt to scrap the levy scheme ~~from~~ in Coimbatore Oil and replace it by No Intensive procurement scheme. No action is called for on this.

A note for O/A will be put up on receipt of the BOR report or in LF

Ag

A note has been put up in the top file. This may be added to top file orders.

In Memo. No.21161-A/46-6 Dated 10-12-46, the Govt. allowed the area Gardeners in the South Kanara District to retain out of the produce of their paddy lands enough grain to pay the labour employed in the areca gardens in kind just as in the case of agricultural labour in accordance with the scale that is usually allowed in the locality for farm servants employed in cultivation of paddy lands. Subsequently the concession was withdrawn in Govt. Memo.No.30269-A/47-2 Food and Agri. dated 27-6-1947 on the recommendations of the Board of Revenue(C.S) and the Collector of South Kanara, as the areca gardens were abusing the concession and hoarding large stocks of paddy under the guise of allowance for payment of labour in kind. Later, this concession was restored in Govt. Memo.No.45516-A/48-2 dated 6--11--48.

In view of the critical food situation in August 1950 the Board issued instructions to the Collector of South Kanara to refix the surplus available with the areca gardens allowing at the rate of 6 ozs. per adult per day and to procure the excess. It is against these orders of the Board that Sri M.N.Bhide, Planter, South Kanara and the South Kanara and Coorg Areca Growers' Union have petitioned to the Govt. They represent that under the concession granted by Govt. till the issue of Board's order, the labourers employed by the areca growers were allowed at the rate of 16 ozs. per adult per day and the reduction now ordered by the Board from 16 ozs. to 6 ozs. is causing hardship to them and amounts to injustice. The Collector of South Kanara has stated that, according to the instructions issued in Govt. Memo.No.21161-A/46-6 dated 10-12-46, the quantity to be allowed to each labourer should be in accordance with the scale that is usually allowed in the locality for farm servants employed in the cultivation of paddy fields and that, as there are no farm servants as such in the districts and in absence of a scale of allowance to farm servants, the areca gardeners were being allowed to retain with them at the rate of 16 ozs. of rice per adult per day for payment of wages in kind to the labourers working in their areca gardens till the receipt of the Board's instructions.

The Board of Revenue(C.S) has stated that in the absence of a

practice of employing regular farm servants and in the absence of any scale of allowances in respect of them, the action of the Collector in having treated the labourers working in the areca gardens on a par with producers of paddy and in having allowed them to retain at 16 ozs. per day per adult was not correct. The Board suggests that in ~~the~~ new present critical food situation in the State and as the scale of ration has been reduced to 6 ozs. of rice to non-producers and also in view of the fact that the partial producers in South Kanara (i.e. tenants) are allowed only ~~at that~~ the scale of 6 ozs. per adult per day ~~for~~ from the landlord's ~~scheme~~ share, after they have exhausted their ~~stocks~~ share, it is neither necessary nor desirable to give any greater concession to the labourers working in the areca gardens than the tenants. For orders whether the Board's recommendation may be accepted.

The South Kanara and Coorg Areca growers Association have also suggested that the levy scheme of procurement may be introduced in their District. The Government have already tried this scheme in Coimbatore and as it has proved a failure, they decided to withdraw the scheme and to extend the Intensive Procurement Scheme. In these circumstances no action is called for on this suggestion.

The case may be circulated to H.M.(Food) for approval of the proposals at A & B above with reference to his minute at ~~5~~ 2 on p. 5 ante

AR 30.11.50.

LD 1/12/50

L 30-11-50

'A' and 'B' above may be accepted.

In this connection it seems very material to examine whether the conditions under which the rule was relaxed in Government Memo No. 45516 A-1/48-2 dated 6-11-48 on pages 10 and 11 of Flag 'S', have been strictly enforced in working these orders issued by Government. I doubt very much if the Arecanut growers have discharged their responsibility in regard to the elimination of the labourers from their family cards as contemplated in condition 1 of the Government's order. It is also doubtful if the second clause, viz., that the concession should be given only where the estimated surplus has been surrendered, has been strictly enforced.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
6 DEC 1950
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

M

The Collector may be asked to submit a special report about these points.

5/12 HM

mab 6/12/50

To AS

Please see the orders in circulation on p 8 ante.

Two drafts are submitted for approval.

MK 8-12-50 WD 12/12/50

L 11-12-50

To AS

Please see the letter from the Hon. Secretary, the South Kanara & Coorg Areca Growers' Union, Mangalore at pp 50-5-1 We have already examined their request and decided that it is neither desirable nor necessary to give any greater concession to the labourers working in Areca gardens than the tenants in S. Kanara at present attention is invited to 'A' on p 8 ante A reply has also been sent to the Union. ~~No action is called for on this and letter and no reply need be given to the Union. For orders.~~ Mr Achar

MK 21-12-50 ~~No further~~ We have asked the Bd. to submit proposals for giving up rural ministry work the local conditions in each dt. further action will be taken on receipt of the report. No separate action is called for in this file.

L 22-12-50 WD 27/12/50 MK 31/12/50

NB

This file deals with the representation of the areca gardeners of S. Kanara Dt. to allow them to retain foodgrains from the produce of their lands at the rate of 16 ozs. per adult per day for payment of wages in kind to the labour employed in areca gardens. This request has however been ~~[illegible]~~ negatived.

Intensive Procurement has since been given up in S. Kanara dt. where procurement will be by levy system. This question of ~~allow~~ allowing grain to areca growers for payment of wages in kind to the labour does not ~~b~~ now arise. In the circumstances, it is for consideration whether the report is called for in ~~the~~ para 2 of the Mems. at p. 48 c/f and the [illegible] at p. 55 c/f may be awaited for the H. may be closed after giving a reply to the ~~[illegible]~~ union to the further letter at pp. 53-54 c/f. For orders.

[illegible] 1/2/51. [illegible] 2.2.51

This file deals with questions of making allowances to Areca gardeners for their wages in kind to the labourers employed in the areca gardens. While issuing orders to the effect that it was neither necessary nor desirable to give special consideration to the labourers working in the areca gardens than to the other agricultural tenants in S. Canara, the report has called for, from the Collector on certain points whether the conditions prescribed in Govt. Memo. No. 4555(6-A)/48-2, F. & A., dt. 6-11-48 particularly conditions A(1), B in pp. 10-11 of the Memo and A(2)(a) were strictly enforced in working the orders issued by the Govt. The Collector has now reported that these conditions were strictly enforced. No further question is called for on this point. The report called for in the Govt. Order at p. 55 may be awaited till 8/49.

29/3

Please see the reports at pp. 67-69 in reply to the Govt. Memo. at p. 55.

pp. 53-54 The Secretary, S. Canara and Coorg Areca Growers Union

for a clarification on whether the areca gardeners may be allowed to retain the all the required for payment of wages in the labourers employed in the areca gardens under the levy scheme of procurement. The Ite has also presented a Memorandum to the Collector with a copy to the Govt. Hon these areca gardeners may be Exempted from levy scheme.

The reports of the Collector of S. Kanara and the Board on this point are Ex. P7-P9 :

As pointed out by the Collector, there is only levy system P. P9
of procurement in the dt., the question of making any allowances of grain to the areca gardeners for payment of wages in kind to their labourers does not arise. Under the levy scheme only a portion of the crop is procured from the producer, and the producer, after he satisfies the levy demand, is free to use the remaining quantity for paying wages to labourers or any other purpose. However, in cases, if any, where large no. of labourers are employed, and the quantity left over is not adequate to pay wages to all, he is free to purchase the quantity required in the open market, as there is no restriction on such purchase

In these circumstances, petition appears necessary to the

petitions. The last petitioner therefore be informed accordi

For orders.

Order above. A draft letter is submitted for approval.

No further action is called for in the file. The papers may now be recorded as Rs Dr. 474 of 20.6.57

- Foodgrains - Procurement - Kamaraj Dt. - Allotment of grain to areca gardeners for payment of wages in kind to labour employed in areca gardens - Concession with drawn - correspondence - Papers recorded.